

I. Introduction

1. The antecedents of Esoteric Buddhism	20
2. Shingon esoterism	21
3. The Mahāvairocana-sūtra and its place in the esoteric scriptures	23
4. The plan of the Mahāvairocana-sūtra	24
5. The essential ideas of the Mahāvairocana-sūtra	25
6. The Mahāvairocana-sūtra in Europe	27
7. Shingon and its canon	28
8. The two great maṇḍalas	29
9. The traditions regarding the patriarchs of Shingon	30
10. The subsequent developments of the Shingon sect: its two branches: the Kogi and the Shingi	34

II. General introduction to the study of maṇḍalas

1. Meaning of the word 'maṇḍala'	36
2. Nature and purpose of the maṇḍala	37
3. The different types of maṇḍalas	39
4. Classification of maṇḍalas	41
5. Maṇḍalas done on the floor	42
6. Essential principles that are the basis of the Mahākaruṇāgarbha and the Vajradhātu maṇḍalas	44

7. Correspondences between the Mahākaruṇāgarbha and the Vajradhātu maṇḍalas	45
8. Differences of character between the two maṇḍalas	46

III. Mahākaruṇāgarbha-maṇḍala

1. Significance of the Mahākaruṇāgarbha-maṇḍala	47
2. Rules given by the Mahāvairocana-sūtra for the execution of the Mahākaruṇāgarbha-maṇḍala	49
3. The system of the Mahākaruṇāgarbha-maṇḍala	51
4. The central quarter of the eight-petalled lotus and its symbols	54
5. The doctrinal meaning of the five buddhas and of the four bodhisattvas sitting in the central lotus	59
6(1). The central quarter of the eight-petalled lotus and its relation to other quarters	61
6(2). The quarter of Universal Knowledge	65
6(3). The quarter of Vidyādhara	71
6(4). The quarter of Avalokiteśvara	78
6(5). The quarter of Vajrapāṇi	88
6(6). The quarter of Śākyamuni	96
6(7). The quarter of Mañjuśrī	109
6(8). The quarter of Kṣitigarbha	116
6(9). The quarter of Sarvanīvaraṇaviṣkambhin	121
6(10). The quarter of Ākāśagarbha	126
6(11). The quarter of Susiddhi	140
6(12). The outer quarter of vajras	144

IV. Vajradhātu-maṇḍala

1. The principle of the nine maṇḍalas of Vajradhātu	168
2. The term Vajradhātu	171
3. Bases of drawing the Vajradhātu-maṇḍala	173
4. The meaning of Vajradhātu-mahāmaṇḍala or Jōjin-ne	179
5. Disposition of the Vajradhātu-mahāmaṇḍala	180

6. The thirty-seven divinities: their names and placement	184
7. Raison d'être of the thirty-seven divinities	187
8. Brief description of the thirty-seven divinities	189
9. Brief description of the other divinities and their symbols	199
10. Very brief description of the eight accessory maṇḍalas of the Vajradhātu-maṇḍala	
Maṇḍala no.2: Samaya-maṇḍala	204
Maṇḍala no.3: Sūkṣma-maṇḍala	208
Maṇḍala no.4: Pūjā-maṇḍala	209
Maṇḍala no.5: Caturmudrā-maṇḍala	210
Maṇḍala no.6: Ekamudrā-maṇḍala	213
Maṇḍala no.7: Naya-maṇḍala	216
Maṇḍala no.8: Trailokyavijaya-karma-maṇḍala	221
Maṇḍala no.9: Trailokyavijaya-samaya-maṇḍala	224

V. The doctrine of Shingon

1. Critique of Shingon esoterism	225
A. The 'horizontal' critique of popular Buddhism and of esoteric Buddhism	225
B. A survey of the doctrine of the ten steps of the heart:	
The 'vertical' critique of esoteric Buddhism	226
2. Differences between popular Buddhism and esoteric Buddhism by Kakuban	231
3. The three universals	234
4. The six elements	235
5. The four kinds of maṇḍalas	242
6. The triple mystery (<i>triguhya</i>)	243
7. Attaining the state of Buddha in this life	245
8. The four kinds of dharmakāyas	249
9. The five circles and the stūpa of five circles	251
10. The five buddhas and the five knowledges	253
11. The three classes and the five classes	
The divinities of the three circles	255
12. The heart of bodhi (<i>bodhicitta</i>)	259
13. The three degrees of the Shingon abhiṣeka	261